



DONALD H. BLEVINS
Chief Probation Officer

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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(562) 940-2501



July 19, 2011

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

APPROVAL TO MODIFY OPERATION READ PROGRAM SERVICES CONTRACTS

SUBJECT

The County of Los Angeles Probation Department is requesting authority to modify our Operation READ Program contracts.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Delegate authority to the Chief Probation Officer to prepare and execute a modification to the five (5) Operation READ Program contracts to include additional services, increase contract rates for individual literacy tutoring from \$20 to \$50 per hour, group literacy tutoring from \$30 to \$75 per hour and include 15% administrative cost, after final approval by County Counsel as to form.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

On July 20, 2010 your Board delegated authority to the Chief Probation Officer to execute five (5) contracts with (3) Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to provide literacy tutoring and related academic services to at-risk, probation and foster care youth throughout the County of Los Angeles. The purpose of the recommended action is to delegate authority to the Chief Probation Officer to prepare and execute a modification to the Operation Read Program contracts to include additional services, increase contract hourly rates and to include administrative cost. The current Operation Read Program provides literacy tutoring services at Literacy Tutoring Center (LTC) sites; promotes academic participation and success; improve educational skills which includes reading, phonics, comprehension, fluency, writing, grammar, vocabulary, spelling, and test taking skills to enhance passing the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE). These services promote school success

with academic achievement and educational skill advancement as a deterrent to criminal and delinquent behavior.

The modification will allow the contractors to deliver additional program services such as homework assistance and project-based learning with a focused effort on youth detained in the camp system. The services will support the Behavioral Modification Programming (BMP) and the Department of Justice (DOJ) provisional agreements to implement rehabilitative programming by creating small group activities for youth to gain skills and practice them. In addition the modification will allow the contractors to contribute toward the efforts to meet American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) settlement agreement at Challenger Memorial Youth Center (CMYC).

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended Board action is consistent with the Countywide Strategic Plan Goal #2, and Children, Family and Adult Well-Being as implementation of the recommendations will enable the Probation Department to continue the coordination and collaboration of integrated services for probation youth and their families.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

No additional net County cost is required to fund the recommended action.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Operation READ Program provide literacy tutoring and related academic services to at-risk, probation and foster-care youth ages twelve to eighteen (12-18). The services youth with reading deficiencies and are aimed at increasing school competencies and school performance. Services are provided in a group and or individual setting by academic mentors three to five hours per week.

The goals of the Operation Read Program include improved academic achievement, educational skills, reading, phonics, comprehension, fluency, writing, grammar, vocabulary, and spelling. An indirect benefit of the program includes reduction of juvenile arrests, and successful completion of probation. The contract modification will modify the scope of work to include additional Operation Read Program services and expand the delivery of services. The modification will provide the contractors with the necessary funding to deliver additional program services.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the recommended action will enable the Probation Department to receive additional Operation Read Program services.

CONCLUSION

Upon approval of your Board, it is requested that the Executive Officer/Clerk of the Board send a copy of the adopted Board Letter to: Los Angeles County Probation Department, Attention: Tasha Howard, Director, 9150 E. Imperial Highway, Room B83, Downey, CA 90242.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

7/19/2011

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Donald H. Blevins". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

DONALD H. BLEVINS

Chief Probation Officer

DHB:TH:ds

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Chief Executive Officer